

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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O P 201415Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3622

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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AMCONSUL ADANA

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AMCONGEN IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

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USDOCOSOUTH

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OSLO FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,TU, GR

SUBJECT: DEMIREL LETTER TO CARAMANLIS

REF: (A) ANKARA 3899 (DTG 171505Z MAY 76) (NOTAL)

(B) ANKARA 3943 (DTG 181318Z MAY 76) (NOTAL

(C) ATHENS 3886 (DTG 191605Z MAY 76) (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE TURKISH MFA MAY 20 RELEASED THE FULL
ENGLISH TEXT OF PRIMIN DEMIREL'S MAY 17 LETTER TO GREEK
PRIMIN CARAMANLIS (REF B). THE TEN-PAGE LETTER BEGINS BY
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REVIEWING BILATERAL CONTACTS ON THE NON-AGGRESSION PACT PROPOSAL

AND NOTES THAT DEMIREL AGREES THAT THE "ATMOSPHERE OF MISTRUST... SHOULD BE DISPELLED." IT THEN RECITES AT LENGTH WHAT TURKEY CONSIDERS TO HAVE BEEN GREEK SINS ON CYPRUS, THE DODECANESE, CONTINENTAL SHELF AND FIR MATTERS, AND REVIEWS RECENT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THESE PROBLEMS, STRESSING GREEK FAILURE TO RECIPROCATATE TURKISH GOODWILL. HOWEVER, THE LETTER EXPRESSES THE OPINION THAT GREECE AND TURKEY "CANNOT AFFORD TO BE ADVERSARIES" AND ASKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON CARAMANLIS' NON-AGGRESSION PACT PROPOSAL SINCE "TURKEY ENTER-TAINS CERTAIN HESITATIONS ABOUT THE MEANING AS WELL AS THE ADVANTAGE " TO BE DERIVED FROM THE PACT. REITERATING THE GOT'S DESIRE TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES BY NEGOTIATIONS, THE LETTER PROPOSES THAT THE RESPECTIVE FONMINS MEET IN OSLO. IT CONCLUDES WITH A STATEMENT THAT THE GOT'S BASIC POLICY IS "TO RESTORE TO TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS THE CLIMATE OF FRIENDSHIP AND TRUST OF THE 1930'S AND TO TURN THE AEGEAN INTO A LAKE OF PEACE UNITING THE TWO COUNTRIES." COMMENT WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER,

I WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOU MY APPRECIATION AND THANKS FOR CONVEYING TO ME, THROUGH YOUR AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA, MR. DIMITRI COSMODOPOULOS, YOUR STATEMENT CONTAINING SOME PROPOSALS FOR TURKEY, EXTRACTED FROM THE ADDRESS YOU DELIVERED BEFORE THE GREEK PARLIAMENT ON APRIL 17, 1976 AND YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE MOTIVES WHICH PROMPTED YOU TO MAKE THESE PROPOSALS.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, I MADE CLEAR MY INITIAL VIEWS ON THIS MATTER ON THE VERY DAY, APRIL 17. IN MY CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR COSMODOPOULOS ON MAY 1, I STATED MY FIRST EVALUATIONS ON THE IDEAS WHICH YOU WERE GOOD ENOUGH TO PUT FORWARD TO ME.

I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT WE STUDIED WITH UTMOST CARE AND ATTENTION BOTH THE DECLARATION MADE BY YOUR EXCELLENCY BEFORE THE PARLIAMENT AND YOUR OBSERVATIONS PASSED ON TO US UNCLASSIFIED

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BY THE AMBASSADOR. IN THIS REGARD, WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO RECEIVING THROUGH AMBASSADOR COSMODOPOULOS CLARIFYING SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION AND COMMENTS FROM THE GREEK GOVERNMENT.

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER,

I DEEM IT PROPER TO PRESENT TO YOU MY VIEWS ON THE

TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS IN WOMEWHAT GREATER DETAIL THAN I EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR COSMODOPOULOS. IN THIS CONNECTION, I CONSIDER IT USEFUL TO SET OUT CLEARLY TO YOU ONCE MORE MY STAND-POINT ON THE TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS, INASMUCH AS IT BEARS UPON THE SUCCESS OF OUR EFFORTS TOWARDS NORMALIZING AND, EVEN BEYOND THAT, IMPROVING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND CREATING A CLIMATE IN WHICH OUR TWO NATIONS COULD LIVE IN PEACE AND SECURITY.

I SHARE WITH YOU FULLY THE CONVICTION THAT THE ATMOSPHERE OF MISTRUST WHICH HAS BEEN CREATED BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE SHOULD BE DISPELLED. I BELIEVE THIS ATMOSPHERE OF MISTRUST IS IN LARGE MEASURE DUE TO THE FACT THAT NO SATISFACTORY SOLUTION HAS YET BEEN FOUND TO THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE ARISEN BETWEEN US AND THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUES BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE HAS BEEN COMPLICATED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF EXTERNAL INFLUENCES AND FORCES.

I HOPE YOU RECOGNIZE THAT THE DIFFERENCES THAT MAR OUR RELATIONS AT PRESENT HAVE NOT ARISEN NOWADAYS. FURTHER-MORE, I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT NONE OF THESE PROBLEMS WAS THE MAKING OF TURKEY.

MR. PRIME MINISTER,

YOUR EXCELLENCY IS ONE OF THE FEW STATESMEN WHO HAS AN INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF HOW THE CYPRUS QUESTION HAS DEVELOPED INTO A COMPLEX ISSUE. THE CONFLICT DID NOT FLARE UP IN 1974, NOR WAS TURKEY FORCED TO INTERVENE BECAUSE PEACE, TRANQUILITY AND JUSTICE PREVAILED IN THE ISLAND. THE CONFLICT OVER CYPRUS HAS BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE ACTIONS OF THE MAKARIOS ADMINISTRATION, ENCOURAGED ALSO BY GREECE, IN CONTINUOUS VIOLATION OF THE LONDON AND ZURICH AGREEMENTS, TO

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THE REALIZATION OF WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY SO GREATLY CONTRIBUTED (SIC). THEREFORE, TO PRETEND THAT THE CYPRUS CRISIS BROKE OUT IN JULY 1974 WOULD BE A MISLEADING ATTEMPT. INDEED, THE CRISIS BEGAN IN 1963 AND ITS PERPETRATORS WERE, AS IN THE 1967 AND 1974 CRISES, THE GREEK CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION WHICH HAS PERSISTENTLY BEHAVED IN VIOLATION OF THE SOLEMN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND UNFORTUNATELY ALSO THE GREEK GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE CONNIVED AT, AND SUPPORTED, THESE VIOLATIONS.

BY HAVING MILITARIZED THE AEGEAN ISLANDS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE LAUSANNE AND PARIS AGREEMENTS THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS CREATED A NEW PROBLEM. OUR FIRST PROTEST NOTE TO THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE MILITARIZATION OF THE DODECANESE, IN PARTICULAR RHODES AND KOS, IN DEFIANCE OF THE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, WAS DELIVERED AS EARLY AS JUNE 1964. THE PROCESS OF

MILITARIZATION STILL CONTINUES UNABATED. I AM SURE YOU WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE EXCUSES PROFFERED TO JUSTIFY THE VIOLATION OF THE BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND THE ARGUMENT THAT THE MILITARIZATION WAS CAUSED BY THE EVENTS OF 1974, DO NOT AT ALL REFLECT THE REALITIES. I WISH TO EMPHASIZE HERE ONCE MORE THAT DELIBERATE VIOLATIONS BY GREECE OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE AEGEAN ISLANDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO TURKEY.

BY ASSERTING A RULE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE VALIDITY OF WHICH I SUSPECT AND BY PRETENDING TO IGNORE THE VITAL INTERESTS OF TURKEY. GREECE BROUGHT FORTH A NEW PROBLEM IN OUR RELATIONS BY ITS APPROACH TO THE QUESTION OF THE EXTENT OF CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE AEGEAN SEA, WHICH SHOULD SERVE AS A BRIDGE OF PEACE BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE WITH ITS SUI-GENERIS CONDITIONS.

THE GRANTING OF LICENSES BY GREECE TO PROSPECT FOR OIL, EVEN IN THE REGIONS OF THE TURKISH CONTINENTAL SHELF, WITHOUT SEEKING TO ARRIVE AT A DEMARCATION AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY AND THE ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY HER IN THIS REGARD HAS TRANSFORMED THE QUESTION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF INTO A GRAVE AND DANGEROUS ISSUE. THE LICENSES WERE ISSUED EVEN BEFORE THE GENEVA CONVENTION WAS RATIFIED BY GREECE IN DECEMBER 1972.

GREECE HAS NOT REFRAINED FROM UTILIZING FOR SEVERAL YEARS ITS RESPONSIBILITIES OF FIR (FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION) OVER THE AEGEAN TO HARM THE INTERESTS OF TURKEY, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT
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THAT THE EXERCISE OF THESE RESPONSIBILITIES WAS ENTRUSTED TO HER IN CONFORMITY WITH INTERNATIONAL RULES EXCLUSIVELY TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC AND HAS PROVOKED NEW PROBLEMS IN TAKING THE VIEW AS THOUGH THE FIR REGION WERE WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF ITS NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.

MR.PRIME MINISTER,

WE HAVE COME TO BELIEVE THAT, BY CREATING THE ISSUES I HAVE TRIED TO EXPLAIN ABOVE, GREECE WAS NOT CONTENT ITSELF ONLY WITH VIOLATING THE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, BUT SHE SOUGHT TO UPSET THE EQUILIBRIUM ESTABLISHED IN LAUSANNE IN 1923.

MR. PRIME MINISTER,

IN THE FACE OF THESE PROBLEMS CREATED BY GREECE, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC HAVE AT ALL TIMES ACTED WITH MODERATION AND RESTRAINT. THEY HAVE DEVOTED, IN ALL SINCERITY AND GOOD FAITH, EVERY EFFORT TOWARDS SOLVING THESE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES BY PEACEFUL MEANS AND BY WAY OF NEGOTIATION. SINCE 1963, THEY DREW THE ATTENTION OF GREECE TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE VIOLATION OF THE LONDON AND ZURICH AGREEMENTS AND HAVE NOT

FAILED TO SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS WHEN CONFRONTED BY VARIOUS PROVOCATIONS. THE GREEK SIDE CARRIES THE RESPONSIBILITY BOTH FOR THE LACK OF RESULTS IN THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WHICH HAVE STARTED IN 1967 AND FOR THEIR RUPTURE IN 1974 AS A RESULT OF THE COUP IN CYPRUS.

OUR WARNINGS SINCE 1964, ABOUT THE MILITARIZATION OF THE AEGEAN ISLANDS HAVE NOT YIELDED ANY RESULT. IN SPITE OF SUCH AN OBVIOUS VIOLATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS BY GREECE, TURKEY, NEVERTHELESS, CONTINUED TO HOPE THAT THIS PROBLEM COULD ALSO BE SOLVED BY PEACEFUL MEANS.

IT WOULD HARDLY BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO MAINTAIN THAT GREECE HAS INVARIABLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE EFFORTS OF TURKEY TOWARDS FINDING PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO OUR PROBLEMS.

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RECOGNIZING THE GRADUAL AGGRAVATION OF OUR DIFFERENCES, TURKEY HAS MADE A GREAT EFFORT, AS EARLY AS THE BEGINNING OF 1973, TO RESTORE THE CLIMATE OF FRIENDSHIP AND CLOSE COOPERATION TO THE RELATIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, BUT WITHOUT AVAIL. THE POSITIVE WORK DONE BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE TWO COUNTRIES IN JUNE 1973 IN COPENHAGEN, IN DECEMBER 1973 IN BRUSSELS AND IN MAY 1974 IN OTTAWA PROVED ABORTIVE AS A RESULT OF THE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE THEN PRIME MINISTERS OF GREECE. EVEN THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY US WITH A VIEW TO DEVELOPING OUR RELATIONS WERE NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. THE PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC, IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOUR EXCELLENCY'S RE-APPOINTMENT AS PRIME MINISTER, DID NOT HAVE A FAVORABLE RECEPTION ON THE PART OF YOUR GOVERNMENT.

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SINCE ITS COMING INTO OFFICE, THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY HEADED BY ME, HAS CONTINUED TO MAKE PERSISTENT EFFORTS WHOLEHEARTEDLY AND IN GOOD FAITH TO RESOLVE OUR PROBLEMS. THE TALKS OF OUR FOREIGN MINISTERS IN MAY 1975 IN ROME HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED BY OUR MEETING AT THE END OF MAY. I DO NOT PROPOSE TO DWELL HERE AT LENGTH ON WHAT I DISCUSSED WITH YOU DURING OUR MEETING. HOWEVER, I WISH MERELY TO REMIND YOU THAT I HAD THEN EXPRESSED TO YOU OUR DESIRE TO SOLVE OUR DIFFERENCES BY PEACEFUL MEANS AND NEGOTIATION AND STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF AVOIDING THE INTERFERENCE OF OTHERS INTO OUR OWN AFFAIRS.

THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY HAS FAITHFULLY RESPECTED THE AGREEMENTS REACHED IN ROME BETWEEN OUR FOREIGN MINISTERS AS WELL AS BETWEEN OURSELVES IN BRUSSELS. SINCE THEN, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE MET FIVE TIMES WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING A SETTLEMENT OF THE PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE AIR SPACE CONTROL OVER THE AEGEAN. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR NOT ACHIEVING ANY PROGRESS SO FAR IN THIS FIELD CANNOT IN ANY WAY BE LAID UPON THE TURKISH SIDE.

TURKEY REMAINS DETERMINED TO PURSUE THESE TALKS WITH REALISM AND FRANKNESS.

WE CAN ONLY REGRET THAT THE TALKS ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF COULD NOT BEGIN BEFORE JANUARY 1976 BECAUSE OF THE ATTITUDE OF GREECE. NONETHELESS, I THINK THE FACT THAT THE TALKS HAVE ACTUALLY STARTED CONSTITUTES A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT.

DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED, THERE IS NO LET-UP IN TURKEY'S ENDEAVORS TO REACH A SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS DISPUTE. IN DECEMBER 1975, OUR FOREIGN MINISTERS MET IN BRUSSELS. THEY CAME TO AN AGREEMENT TO BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL AND LASTING SOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT OVER CYPRUS IN A MANNER THAT WILL BE SATISFACTORY TO THE PARTIES AND DREW UP A DOCUMENT TO THIS EFFECT. I VIEWED THIS AGREEMENT AS CONSTITUTING A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO MARK A NEW STAGE IN OUR RELATIONS. YET, THE PLOTS AND SCHEMES HATCHED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOT

ADMINISTRATION IN ORDER TO INVALIDATE THIS AGREEMENT AS WELL AND THE RESULTANT EVENTS CAUSED BY ITS ACTIONS BECAME EVIDENT.

TURKEY IS WILLING AND DETERMINED TO ADHERE TO THE BRUSSELS AGREEMENT TO THE LETTER. I OBSERVE WITH REGRET, HOWEVER THAT GREECE AND GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE ARE SHOWING EAGERNESS IN DIVESTING THEMSELVES OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES INCURRED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. HAD THEY COMPLIED WITH THE AGREEMENT FROM THE OUTSET, NOTABLE PROGRESS COULD HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE DIRECTION OF
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SOLVING THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

MR. PRIME MINISTER,

YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL RECALL THAT DURING OUR MEETING ON MAY 31, 1975 IN BRUSSELS, IS SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD SETTLE OUR EXISTING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OURSELVES WITHOUT EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE. HOWEVER, THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS CHOSEN RATHER TO INVOLVE THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD IN ALL OF THESE ISSUES, AS IT IS APPARENT FROM YOUR STATEMENT OF APRIL 17. IN ORDER TO EXERT EXTERNAL PRESSURE ON TURKEY, GREECE HAS NOT REFRAINED FROM RESORTING TO ALL SORTS OF SCHEMES AGAINST TURKEY, BOTH IN BILATERAL RELATIONS AND IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. THIS ATTITUDE HAS NOT PROVED USEFUL AT ALL IN THE SETTLEMENT OF OUR PROBLEMS AND IT SHALL NEVER BE.

MR. PRIME MINISTER,

I WISH TO STRESS ANOTHER POINT OF IMPORTANCE. TURKEY IS NOT ENGAGED IN AN ARMS RACE WITH GREECE. TURKEY'S POLICY AIMS AT PROCURING SOLELY WEAPONS AND MATERIAL NEEDED TO MEET THE LEGITIMATE REQUIREMENTS OF HER ARMED FORCES, AND THE OBLIGATIONS ARISING OUT OF HER MEMBERSHIP TO THE WESTERN DEFENSE COMMUNITY. IT WAS GREECE, WHO RECENTLY, WITH A VIEW TO ASSURING THE SUPERIORITY OF HER ARMED FORCES TO THOSE OF TURKEY, HAS ELECTED TO FOLLOW AN ARMAMENTS PURCHASING POLICY INFINITELY IN EXCESS OF THE REAL REQUIREMENTS, STRAINING HER ECONOMIC RESOURCES TO THE LIMIT.

MR. PRIME MINISTER,

I WOULD LIKE TO REASSURE YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT MY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RELATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. TURKEY AND GREECE CANNOT AFFORD TO BE ADVERSARIES. THEY ARE EXPOSED TO A COMMON THREAT. YOUR AMBASSADOR HAS STATED THAT THE GREEK PUBLIC OPINION WAS APPREHENSIVE THAT TURKEY THREATENED GREECE OR WOULD ATTACK HER, NEEDLESS TO SAY, THIS IS SUCH AN ILLOGICAL AND IRRATIONAL ARGUMENT THAT I DO NOT THINK IT IS WORTH CONSIDERING. SINCE ITS FOUNDATION, THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY HAS NOT ENTERTAINED AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS REGARDING ANY OF HER NEIGHBORS AND HER RECORD IS THE PROOF OF THIS. AS WITH HER OTHER NEIGHBORS, TURKEY DOES NOT SEEK ANY OBJECTIVES OTHER THAN TO SOLVE IN A PEACEFUL MANNER HER DIFFERENCES WITH GREECE.

GUIDED BY THESE CONSIDERATIONS, TURKEY ENTERTAINS
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CERTAIN HESITATIONS ABOUT THE MEANING AS WELL AS THE ADVANTAGE WHICH WOULD EMERGE BY CONCLUDING A NON-AGGRESSION PACT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS THE SAME DEFENSIVE TREATY. NEVERTHELESS, AS I HAVE INDICATED TO YOUR AMBASSADOR, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER WITH UTMOST CARE AND ATTENTION, POSSIBLE BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED FROM CONCLUDING SUCH A NON-AGGRESSION PACT, AS WELL AS THE OBJECTIVE IT WILL SERVE AND THE AIMS TO BE ATTAINED.

I CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO THE CONVICTION THAT THE BEST WAY TO ENSURE THE REMOVAL OF THE ATMOSPHERE OF MISTRUST, WHICH YOU BELIEVE IT (SIC) EXISTS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE, THE NORMALIZATION OF OUR RELATIONSHIP AND THE RESTORATION OF THE ERA OF FRIENDSHIP AND CLOSE COOPERATION IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONS TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF TH TWO STATES IS TO REACH A SETTLEMENT OF OUR PROBLEMS BY A PRACTICAL STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH. I BELIEVE THAT WE CAN RESOLVE OUR DIFFERENCES BY NEGOTIATIONS, ACCEPTING AS BASIS, THE PRINCIPLES OF AVOIDING THE VIOLATION OF THE BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, OBSERVING SCRUPULOUSLY THE DELICATE LAUSANNE EQUILIBRIUM AND REFRAINING FROM INVOLVING EXTERNAL FORCES IN THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

A GREAT OBLIGATION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RESTORATION OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE DEVOLVES ON OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. IN THIS REGARD, I THINK IT WILL BE USEFUL TO DISCUSS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE AND DEDICATED SPIRIT, ALL OUR PROBLEMS, WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT DEFINITE DECISIONS AND DRAWING UP A PROGRAM AND PROTOCOL DEALING WITH THESE MATTERS. IN THIS RESPECT, I FEEL THAT FURTHER TALKS BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD BE PARTICULARLY ADVISEABLE .

IF THIS SUGGESTION COMMENDS ITSELF TO YOUR EXCELLENCY, OUR FOREIGN MINISTERS MAY HOLD PRELIMINARY TALKS AND START TO WORK WHEN THEY MEET AT THE FORTHCOMING NATO MINISTERIAL COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN OSLO.

IT IS THE BASIC POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY TO RESTORE TO THE TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS THE CLIMATE OF FRIENDSHIP AND TRUST OF THE 1930'S AND TO TURN THE AEGEAN SEA INTO A LAKE OF PEACE UNITING THE TWO COUNTRIES. IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO REITERATE THAT THE ENDEAVORS OF YOUR EXCELLENCY TOWARDS THIS GOAL WILL BE RECEIVED WITH REAL GRATIFICATION.

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SINCERELY YOURS,
SULEYMAN DEMIREL, PRIME MINISTER
END TEXT.
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